

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Steam iron (1) having a heating soleplate (2), a steam chamber (3), a part (8) having multiple functions constituting at the same time a heat shield and ~~thea~~ skirt (85) of the iron, characterized in that the part (8) having multiple functions constitutes at least in part the steam chamber (3) above the soleplate (2).

2. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to claim 1, having a water reservoir (4), wherein said reservoir has a bottom, constituted by~~characterized in that the part (8) with multiple functions constitutes the bottom of the water reservoir (4).~~

3. (Original) Steam iron according to claim 1 characterized in that the part (8) having multiple functions is of heat resistant plastic.

4. (Original) Steam iron according to claim 3 characterized in that the plastic of the multifunction part (8) is a polyester or a polysulfone.

5. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to claim 4, wherein said steam chamber has walls constituted ~~characterized in that~~by the skirt of the iron ~~constitutes the walls of the steam chamber (3).~~

6. (Previously presented)) Steam iron according to claim 5 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

7. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to claim 4 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

8. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to claim 3, wherein said steam chamber has walls constituted by ~~characterized in that~~ the skirt of the iron ~~constitutes the walls of the steam chamber (3).~~

9. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to claim 8 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

10. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to claim 3 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

11. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to claim 2, wherein said steam chamber has walls constituted by ~~characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the walls of the steam chamber (3).~~

12. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to claim 11 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals (84).

13. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to claim 2 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in

contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals
(84) .

14. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to
claim 1, wherein said steam chamber has walls constituted by
~~characterized in that the skirt of the iron constitutes the~~
~~walls of the steam chamber (3).~~

15. (Currently amended) Steam iron according to
claim ~~12~~14 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is
in contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals
(84) .

16. (Previously presented) Steam iron according to
claim 1 characterized in that the multifunction part (8) is in
contact with the soleplate (2) through elastomer foam seals
(84) .